

VZCZCXRO2405
PP RUEHDT RUEHKN RUEHKB RUEHBJ RUEHPB
DE RUEHBY #1622 3130529
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 090529Z NOV 07
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8533
INFO RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY 4694
RUEHBD/AMCONSUL PERTH PRIORITY 2987
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY PRIORITY 2865
RUEHBD/AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN 0581
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 1603
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8827
RUEHDT/AMEMBASSY DILI 0155
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI 1648
RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA 5113
RUEHKN/AMEMBASSY KOLONIA 0056
RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY KOROR 0028
RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 2366
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY MAJURO 0172
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA 7206
RUEHPF/AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH 0344
RUEHPB/AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY 1800
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 2520
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 9311
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 1339
RUEHSV/AMEMBASSY SUVA 1399
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2829
RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 1503
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 5141

UNCLAS CANBERRA 001622

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAO](#) [MARR](#) [MAS](#) [PREL](#) [AS](#)

SUBJECT: COMMEMORATING THE GREAT WHITE FLEET
CIRCUMNAVIGATION

REF: STATE 152754

Mission Australia enthusiastically welcomes the prospect of a U.S. Navy visit to commemorate the voyage of the Great White Fleet. We propose that ships visit all three ports that were involved in the 1908 visit) Sydney, Melbourne, and Albany. The Great White Fleet,s visit marked the beginning of bilateral strategic engagement, and Mission and GOA agencies (including the Royal Australian Navy, the Australian National Maritime Museum, and DFAT) are actively engaged in designing a program of activities to highlight the longevity of cooperation between our two countries, the benefits of the post-WWII treaty alliance, and the advantages of continuing close collaboration in humanitarian as well as security activities. Proposed anniversary activities include a symposium, a special exhibition in Sydney and a traveling exhibit for museums in Melbourne and Western Australia, a commemorative book, programs for school children, a gala ball, shipboard receptions, joint events with Royal Australian Navy vessels, activities ashore to replicate parts of the original Fleet,s program, community relations activities, oral histories from descendants, and the like. We anticipate enormous interest in the commemoration among the Australian public and predict that the commemoration will be one of our most successful public diplomacy activities ever undertaken in Australia. We wish to thank the U.S. Navy and the Departments of Defense and State for their support for this very important undertaking.